



**MASTER PATIENT INDEX  
(MPI) *VISTA*  
Release Notes**

Version 1.0

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Department of Veterans Affairs  
**VISTA** Technical Services  
Standard Files and Indexes

# Master Patient Index (MPI) VISTA Release Notes

Patient information is widely distributed throughout the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). There are over 140 Veterans Health Administration (VHA) databases and more than 160 information systems in use in the United States. This creates a high degree of probability that a patient's information may be kept under more than one identification number.

The Master Patient Index (MPI) has been created to eliminate/alleviate this problem/dilemma/predicament by providing:

- **A unique identification number for each VA patient**
- **A single master index of all VA patients using this unique identifier**
- **A means for messaging/transmitting/sending patient information among the VA institutional partners**

The MPI will thus enable/facilitate/allow the correct identification of patients across the many systems among all institutional partners [Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA), Board of Veterans Appeals (BVA), National Cemetery Service (NCS), as well as VHA].

MPI consists of the following three modules:

## MPI HIGHLIGHTS

### **Master Patient Index (Austin)**

This is the actual index of patients. It is maintained at the Austin Automation Center. Patient entries contain the following information:

- Each patient has a unique patient identifier.
- Each patient has a CIRN Master of Record (CMOR) --one facility with responsibility for the patient's identifying information.
- Each patient record contains the patient's identifying information (e.g., name, SSN, date of birth) and a list of facilities where the patient has been treated.

# MPI HIGHLIGHTS

<b>Master Patient Index (VISTA)</b>	<p>This software resides in <b>VISTA</b>. It sends patient data to the MPI (Austin) and to sites where that patient has been seen.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The MPI (<b>VISTA</b>) assigns each patient (1) a unique patient identifier (Integration Control Number, or ICN) and (2) initially assigns the requesting site as the CMOR.</li> <li>• It enables sites to query the Index [i.e., MPI (Austin)] for known data, to request the assignment of an ICN, to inactivate and ICN, and to manage incoming and outgoing Change CMOR Requests.</li> <li>• It updates the Index as new patients are added or their data is updated at the VA Medical Centers.</li> </ul>
<b>CIRN Master of Record (CMOR)</b>	<p>The function of the CMOR site is to advise all other sites that share a particular patient when changes are made to demographic data after that patient has been established to the MPI (Austin).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The CMOR is the site with responsibility for the identifying information in a patient's record in the MPI (Austin).</li> <li>• The first site to identify a patient to the MPI (Austin) is initially designated the CMOR.</li> <li>• The CMOR is the only site authorized to change patient demographic data after that patient has been established.</li> <li>• After the initialization process, the patient's CMOR Activity Scores are compared at the CMOR and non-CMOR site(s). If the non-CMOR site has a higher CMOR Activity Score for a patient and the difference is greater than 80%, the current CMOR sends an HL7 message to the MPI (Austin) and to all sites which have treated this patient informing them that the CMOR has changed.</li> </ul>